



GOVERNMENT OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS OF THE UNITED STATES

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DPNR CONGRATULATES STAFF SCIENTISTS ON PUBLICATIONS

Commissioner Jean-Pierre L. Oriol of the Department of Planning and Natural Resources congratulates staff in the Division of Fish & Wildlife on publishing a total of 3 scientific peer-reviewed papers in the year 2023. Those staff were Nicole Angeli, Ph.D.; Sean Kelly, Ph.D.; and Sennai Habtes, Ph.D. The publications focused on birds found in the diets of red-tailed boas on St. Croix; the history of amphibian populations in the territory; and the impact of urbanization on the Atlantic ghost crab on Caribbean beaches.

1. Mitchell Gilliland, Andrew M. Durso, Matthew F. Metcalf, Oscar Johnson, **Sean P. Kelly**, Edwin M. Everham, and **Nicole F. Angeli**, "Birds in the Diet of Invasive *Boa imperator* on St. Croix, U. S. Virgin Islands," *Caribbean Journal of Science* 53(2), pg. 437-444, (2023); <https://doi.org/10.18475/cjos.v53i2.a24>
2. Ríos-López, N., Puente-Rolón, A. R., **Angeli, N. F.**, Vega-Castillo, S., and Dávila-Casanova, D., 2023. Amphibians and their History, Distribution, and Conservation in Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands. Chapter 8, Pp. 296–465, in *The Conservation and Biogeography of Amphibians in the Caribbean*, edited by N. Ríos-López and H. Heatwole. Part 5. The Conservation, Demise, and Biogeography of Amphibians in the Caribbean, in Volume 9 of *Status and Decline of Amphibians: Western Hemisphere*. Series: *Amphibian Biology*. Pelagic Press, Exeter, UK. <https://doi.org/10.53061/ZLYL5129>
3. Schlender, K., Corte, G., Durdall, A., **Habtes, S.**, and Grimes, K. W. Urbanization driving *Ocypode quadrata* burrow density, depth, and width across Caribbean beaches. *Ecological Indicators*, Vol. 153, 2023, 110396. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ecolind.2023.110396>

The Division of Fish & Wildlife collaborates widely with agencies and research institutions to provide information on how to conserve, protect, and restore our ecosystems. These investigations represent high quality information on our ecosystems, animal populations, and methods to investigate the natural world.

For any questions or more information or to request full text versions of these articles, please call the Division of Fish and Wildlife at (340) 773-1082 or email at DFWElectronic@usvi.onmicrosoft.com.